

**MINUTES OF THE  
GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS INTERIM COMMITTEE**  
Wednesday, May 16, 2007 – 9:00 a.m. – Room W025 House Building

**Members Present:**

Sen. Peter C. Knudson, Senate Chair  
Rep. Glenn A. Donnelson, House Chair  
Sen. Gregory S. Bell  
Sen. Brent H. Goodfellow  
Rep. Douglas C. Aagard  
Rep. Ron Bigelow  
Rep. DeMar Bud Bowman  
Rep. Lorie D. Fowlke  
Rep. Keith Grover  
Rep. Neil A. Hansen  
Rep. Neal B. Hendrickson  
Rep. Eric K. Hutchings

Rep. John G. Mathis  
Rep. Curtis Oda  
Rep. Larry B. Wiley

**Members Absent:**

Pres. John L. Valentine

**Staff Present:**

Mr. Benjamin N. Christensen, Policy Analyst  
Mr. Eric N. Weeks, Associate General Counsel  
Ms. A. Brooke Ollerton, Legislative Secretary

Note: A list of others present, a copy of related materials, and an audio recording of the meeting can be found at [www.le.utah.gov](http://www.le.utah.gov).

**1. Committee Business**

Chair Donnelson called the meeting to order at 9:06 a.m.

**MOTION:** Rep. Hansen moved to approve the minutes of the April 18, 2007 meeting. The motion passed unanimously with Sen. Bell, Rep. Grover, Rep. Hutchings, Rep. Mathis, and Rep. Oda absent for the vote.

**2. Update on Construction Projects and Master Plan for State Office Space Needs -- DFCM  
(Division of Facilities Construction and Management)**

Mr. Keith Stepan, DFCM (Division of Facilities Construction and Management), presented a report on DFCM building projects and office space needs. He gave a slide presentation and distributed "Construction Project Status Report," "Capital Development Group Monthly Reports," and "Balanced Scorecard Metric Annual Evaluation" and answered questions from the Committee.

Mr. Kent Dee Beers, DFCM, reported on the state government office building master plan. He answered committee questions about buildings scheduled for demolition, the relocation of agencies during the changes, and the capacity of state office buildings.

Mr. Robert Franson, Assistant Director of Construction, DFCM, answered a question from Sen. Bell about funding for campgrounds.

**3. Access to Voter Registration Date of Birth Information (draft legislation)**

Mr. Weeks referred to the second draft of 2007 General Session draft legislation, "Access to Voter Registration Date of Birth Information," which was distributed prior to the meeting. He explained that the legislation proposed to make date of birth obtained from voter registration records a private record under GRAMA (the Government Records Access and Management Act).

Ms. Linda Peterson, President, Utah Foundation for Open Government, spoke against the bill. She said that access to voters' dates of birth is important when verifying election integrity.

Ms. Kathy Dopp, President, National Election Data Archive, spoke in opposition to the bill. She asked the Committee to hold a public hearing on access to election records and suggested that the release of dates of birth be made dependent on the requestor's purpose. She distributed an article, "Election Audit Finds Mistakes Aplenty."

Mr. Joel Campbell, Utah Press Association, expressed concern over the loss of transparency the change would great and said that access to birth dates is critical to public service reporting. He distributed an article, "11, 214 on Rolls in 2 Counties," and gave examples of times when dates of birth helped identify duplicate voters and voter fraud.

Mr. Michael Cragun, Deputy Director, Office of the Lieutenant Governor, explained that this bill arose because private citizens and commercial companies had requested the full database of voter records. This bill would allow his office to legally protect dates of birth. He clarified that the Lieutenant Governor had recently verified referendum voters using indicators other than birth date.

Rep. Aagard asked staff to find out if other states provide dates of birth from voter registration records as public information.

Sen. Goodfellow requested that the Committee hear testimony from experts on identity theft to help the Committee understand this issue.

Mr. Scott Hogensen, Chief Deputy Clerk, Summit County, said that the clerks support the legislation and said there is a duplicate voter name removal system in place now.

Ms. Joycelynn Straight, Utah Clear, spoke about her experience with requesting voter verification from the Lieutenant Governor's Office.

**MOTION:** Rep. Hutchings moved to postpone consideration of "Access to Voter Date of Birth Records" until a future agenda. The motion passed unanimously with Rep. Bigelow and Rep. Fowlke absent for the vote.

#### **4. Other Items / Adjourn**

**MOTION:** Sen. Knudson moved to adjourn. The motion passed unanimously with Rep. Bigelow and Rep. Fowlke absent for the vote.

Chair Donnelson adjourned the meeting at 10:59 a.m.